

REMARKS

Applicants submit this Amendment in reply to the Office Action mailed May 9, 2006.

In this Amendment, Applicants amend the specification; Abstract of the Disclosure; and claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 to improve clarity. Applicants also amend claim 1 to recite, inter alia, “wherein the edge filter is a short-wavelength transmitting filter that permits passage of wavelengths shorter than the excitation wavelength.”

Before entry of this Amendment, claims 1-6 were pending in this application. After entry of the Amendment, claims 1-6 remain pending in the application.

The originally filed specification, claims, Abstract of the Disclosure, and drawings fully support the amendments to the specification, Abstract of the Disclosure, and claims 1, 2, 5, and 6. No new matter is introduced.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0191398 A1 to Motz et al. (“Motz”).

Applicants submit that Motz does not appear to disclose measuring anti-Stokes Raman scattering. Applicants further submit that Motz does not appear to disclose using an edge filter that is a short-wavelength transmitting filter which permits passage of wavelengths shorter than the excitation wavelength. For example, in paragraph [0067], Motz states that “[i]n a preferred embodiment, the collection fibers can be preceded by a long wavelength pass filter or notch filter which transmits the tissue Raman spectrum while blocking laser light backscattered from the

tissue.” Therefore, Applicants submit that Motz does not disclose at least “[a] Raman probe for measuring Raman spectrum . . . wherein the edge filter is a short-wavelength transmitting filter that permits passage of wavelengths shorter than the excitation wavelength.”

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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